

# Editorial Philosophy and Politics of the “Revista Colombiana de Bioética”

The “Revista Colombiana de Bioética” (RCB) is an indexed publication, reviewed through a double-blind method, with editions every 6 months, edited by the Bioethics Department at the Universidad El Bosque. It is focused on the consolidation of the Bioethics field and its academic community, through the dissemination and exposure of the most significant works in the contemporary discussion of the area. It is an efficient entity of diffusion for academics, investigators, students, and other people interested in the field of bioethics to present to the academic community, nationally and internationally, the results of their investigations, their theoretic reflections, and critical revision on scientific, technological, and cultural topics related with bioethics. Bioethics is understood in the most ample meaning of the term, that is to say, as a field of study that is trans-, inter-, and multidisciplinary that unites diverse knowledge, discussions, investigations, and practices about the ethical aspects that scientific and technological advances raise in relation to life. The RCB is a space for reflection, a new discourse, and new ethical approximation of all these questions in a pluralistic, multicultural, interdisciplinary, global, and prospective environment.

The RCB considers for publication manuscripts that are new and unpublished original manuscripts, voluntarily submitted by the authors, and that fulfill the formal, editorial, scientific, and ethical conditions proper to an indexed

publication. It accepts and publishes manuscripts in Spanish and in other languages like English, French, Portuguese, and Italian. It is a journal open to all disciplines, themes, and methodologies that enrich the investigative, analytical, and empirical development of bioethics and related areas. It published articles of investigation, reflection and revision, case studies, reviews and essays, including in its special edition, the publication of articles derived from doctoral theses, and lectures presented at the international Seminar of Bioethics, which the Bioethics Department at the Universidad El Bosque organizes annually.

The quality of the published scientific, technological, and cultural investigations and studies is guaranteed through a rigorous process of selection in that includes the participation of the Editor-Director of the journal, an editorial committee, and a national and international Scientific Committee, as well as a group of reviewers whose trajectory and experience in the field is verifiable. All of the editorial processes are bound to the code of conduct for journal editors from the Committee On Publication Ethics (COPE)<sup>13</sup>, and requires of the authors a declaration of possible conflicts of interest. The published manuscripts do not express the opinions of the members of the committee, of the Bioethics Department, or of the Universidad el Bosque; they are the exclusive responsibility of the authors.

12 Approved by the Editorial Committee of the *Revista Colombiana de Bioética* on the 16th of February, 2017

13 [http://publicationethics.org/files/Code%20of%20Conduct\\_2.pdf](http://publicationethics.org/files/Code%20of%20Conduct_2.pdf)

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## EXPOSURE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The RCB has an ample diffusion among the professors, investigators, and students of the Universidad El Bosque, and it is available by interchange at the main national and international libraries, at university libraries, at the syndicate libraries, corporations, and other groups interested in Bioethics, like Committees on the Ethics of Investigation and of Health Care Ethics. The complete text is published on the journal's<sup>15</sup> and Bioethics Department's<sup>16</sup> web pages. It is classified in category B in the Publindex of Colciencias, the Regional System of online Information for Scientific Journals of Latin America, the Caribbean, Spain, and Portugal (Latindex), the Web of scientific journals of Latin America and the Caribbean, Spain and Portugal (Redalyc), the data base for Latin-American and Caribbean Literature on Health Sciences (Lilacs), the virtual Library for the monitoring of the public health in Colombia (Bvs-vspcol), and the Philosopher's Index.

## TYPE OF DOCUMENTS PUBLISHED

- Investigation Article: presents in a detailed fashion the original results of investigation project. The articles can be developed following the methodologies of empirical, scientific, and technological investigations, or following the methodologies of social and human sciences.
- Reflection Article: presents results of investigations from an author's analytical, interpretative, or critical perspective, about a specific topic, and it refer to original sources. It may present a theoretical reflection about the concepts and methodologies of a concluded investigation.
- Review Article: presents the results of an investigation that analyses, systematizes, and integrates the results of published or unpublished investigations about a certain scientific or technological field in order to highlight advances and development tendencies. It is characterized by presenting a meticulous bibliography of at least fifty (50) references. It has the same structure as an investigative article.
- Short Article: briefly presents original results that are preliminary or partial, of a scientific or technological investigation that, in general, requires a quick diffusion.
- Case Study: presents the analysis of a particular situation with bioethical dilemmas whose methodology responds to one of the reasoning methods of bioethics, in order to give knowledge of the technical and methodological experiences considered in a specific case. It includes a systematic and guided vision of literature about analogous cases.

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<sup>15</sup> <http://revistas.unbosque.edu.co/index.php/RCB>

<sup>16</sup> <http://www.publicacionesbioetica.unbosque.edu.co>

- Topic Revision: presents a critical revision of literature available about a specific topic.
- Dialogue: presents critical, analytical, or interpretative positions about the documents published in the “*Revista Colombiana de Bioética*” that, in the judgment of the editorial committee, constitutes important contributions to the discussion of the topic on the part of the scientific community in reference. It is recommended that these documents not exceed 3000 words in extension.
- Editorial: a document written by the editor, a member of the editorial committee, or an invited investigator about orientations in the thematic dominion of the RCB.
- Translation: presents an edition in Spanish of classical texts, current texts, or transcriptions of historical documents of particular interest in the RCB’s dominion of publication that were not previously available in Spanish.
- Reflection article not derived from investigation: presents analysis, interpretations, or criticisms of topics, concepts, or discussions in the field of bioethics.
- Bibliography review: presents analytical or critical commentaries about classical or contemporary works, important to the field of Bioethics, with the end of disseminating and promoting the reading and discussion of those texts.
- Lectures: presents the works disseminated and discussed in the “Seminario Internacional de Bioética”.

## STRUCTURE OF DOCUMENTS

It is recommended that investigative articles follow the following guidelines:<sup>17</sup>

**Title:** between 10 and 15 words that indicate with clarity the topic of the article. It should be translated into English and Portuguese.

**Abstract:** a maximum length of 250 words. It should reflect the objects, the methodology, the results, and the conclusions. The information should always proceed from the article’s text. It should be translated in English (“Abstract”) and Portuguese (“resumo”).

**Key words:** Between 5 and 7 words that reflect the principle themes in the articles. They should be included in English (“Key-words”) and in Portuguese (“Palabras-chave”).

**Introduction:** should clearly present a thesis and gather the principle ideas needed to give the article context.

1. **Methodology:** It should specify the methods and strategies for the implementation of the investigation. The methodology should be adequate for the type of investigations proposed, and permit the achievement of its objectives. Its recommended length is less than 300 words.<sup>18</sup>
2. **Results:** in case of being structured in sections, the numeration and hierarchy

<sup>17</sup> A template for the presentation of articles is available on the journal’s web page.

<sup>18</sup> Points 1-3 of this guide correspond to the presentation of articles of technological and scientific investigation. For investigative articles in social and human sciences, the authors can take the divisions and section that they deem convenient, as long as these conserve the unity and clarity of the development of the article.

should be clear and explicit. The investigation's findings should be clearly presented.

3. Discussion and conclusions: the results are analyzed or interpreted in relation with other investigations or with the general state of knowledge in the investigational field. The conclusions clearly present the findings or concrete results, in relation with the objective, the investigation's inquiry, the hypothesis or impression, and the limitations of the case.
4. Bibliographical References: all sources cited within the document and only the sources cited in the document should be included. It is recommended that the articles include current bibliographies (published in the last 5 years) and that the consulted edition is rigorously cited. For revision articles it is necessary to count on a minimum fifty (50) bibliographical references.

The bibliographical references should be presented in accordance with the citation and reference guidelines of APA format. The bibliographical references and citations should be included parenthetically in the body of the text and not as footnotes. Footnotes should be used to comment on or add additional information to the body of the text. Provided below are some examples that can serve as guides.

- a. Citation of articles published in serial publications:
  - *Short citation in the body of the text, when the cited text does not exceed 40 words.*
  - Example 1:

... as Etxeberria (2015) affirms, "Being recognized and recognizing coalesce in recognizing

each other. Unidirectional recognition overflows from it ("I somewhat recognize you"); including, the interchange of unilateral recognition in which interaction is missing" (p.135).

#### Example 2:

... The author affirms that "Being recognized and recognizing coalesce in recognizing each other. Unidirectional recognition overflows from it ("I somewhat recognize you"); including, the interchange of unilateral recognition in which interaction is missing" (Etxeberria, 2015, p. 135).

The citation should be signaled with the use of quotation marks, without using italics (except in cases where the original text includes them), and should pay attention to correct use of upper case and lower-case. In between the citation and the parentheses there should not be punctuation marks; these should appear after the reference parentheses.

- *Extended citation in the body of the text, when the cited text exceeded 40 words:*

#### Example 1:

... in his text "El reconocimiento como referente transversal de la bioética" (2015), Xabier Etxeberria affirms the following:

Being recognized and recognizing coalesce in recognizing each other. Unidirectional recognition overflows from it ("I somewhat recognize you"); including, the interchange of unilateral recognition in which interaction is missing. We recognize the other in the dynamic of being recognized by him. (p.135)

Because of the aforementioned, it is possible to affirm that...

## Example 2:

...the following is affirmed:

Being recognized and recognizing coalesce in recognizing each other. Unidirectional recognition overflows in it ("I somewhat recognize you"); including the interchange of unilateral recognition in which interaction is missing. We recognize the other in the dynamic of being recognized by him. (Exteberria, 2015, p.135)

Because of the aforementioned, it is possible to affirm that...

Extensive citations should be separated from the paragraph and should not include quotation marks. They are signaled by indenting the text and using a smaller font (11p).

The reference corresponding to the previous examples should appear in the Bibliographical References in the following manner:

ETXEBERRIA, X. (2015). El reconocimiento como referente transversal de la bioética. *Revista Colombiana de Bioética*, 10(2), 127-141. Recovered from: <http://revistas.unbosque.edu.co/index.php/RCB/article/view/1761/1343>

## b. Citation of books:

*Complete books:*

NUSSBAUM, M.C. (2016). *Anger and Forgiveness. Resentment, Generosity, Justice*. Nueva York: Oxford University Press.

*Complete Books, part of a series:*

HOTTOIS, G. (2013). Dignidad y diversidad humanas. En J. Escobar (Ed. de la colección),

*Bios y Oikos: Vol. 11*. Bogotá: Universidad El Bosque.

## c. Citation of chapters of a book or article in compilation:

NUSSBAUM, M.C. (2016). *Everyday Justice*. En *Anger and Forgiveness. Resentment, Generosity, Justice* (pp. 169-210). Nueva York: Oxford University Press.

*Chapter in a book, part of a series:*

OVALLE, C. (2007). Fundamentos bioéticos para la elaboración de una propuesta de investigación en educación del desarrollo humano en Colombia. En J. Escobar (Ed. de la colección), *Bios y Ethos: Vol 26. Bioética, Desarrollo Humano y Educación* (pp. 139-174). Bogotá: Universidad El Bosque.

## EDITORIAL PROCESS

## PRESENTATION OF DOCUMENTS

Works submitted for publication in the RCB should be uploaded to the OJS platform at <http://revistas.unbosque.edu.co/index.php/RCB> or sent by email to: [revistacolombianadebioetica@unbosque.edu.co](mailto:revistacolombianadebioetica@unbosque.edu.co), with a carbon copy to: [revistacolombianadebioetica@unbosque.edu.co](mailto:revistacolombianadebioetica@unbosque.edu.co). The subject of the message should be: "Article for publication in the *Revista Colombiana de Bioética*". The message should include the three (3) files, described below:

## 1. The submitted article

- Format: .doc., .docx. or .rtf. The file should not have restriction for correction
- Font: Arial or Times New Roman, size 12, spacing 1.5

- Title of the article in Spanish, English, and Portuguese
- Summary in Spanish, Abstract in English, and Resumo in Portuguese, with a maximum length of 250 words.
- Between 5 and 7 keys words in each one of the mentioned languages.
- Citations, references, and Bibliographical References following APA<sup>19</sup> guidelines.

The text should not exceed a length of 12,000 words, although exceptions can be made by considerations made by the Editorial Committee. Information about the author should *not* be included in any part of this file in order to guarantee that the evaluation is done “blind”.

2. Basic information about the author in an independent file.<sup>20</sup>

- Title of the manuscript
- Type of work presented (investigative, reflective, revision, case study, essay, translation)
- Complete name and last name
- Type of identification document and identification number
- Institutional affiliation and job assigned
- City and country

- Email address, postal address, and phone number
- ORCID profile code<sup>21</sup>
- Brief biographical summary that includes titles, occupation, awards, and last publications and investigations
- Declaration of interest to be part of the database of peer reviewers, if the Editorial Committee deems the inclusion convenient.

In case that a manuscript is presented as co-authorship by one or more people, it is necessary that each one of the authors send the completed form, or the complete information.

3. Declaration of originality of authorship and desisting from proprietary rights, following the form available on the journal's web page.

The authors should explicitly manifest that the works *have not* been published in another journal, nor have been submitted or accepted in other scientific publications. In case the works have been published in gray literature or on a web page, they should be removed from the site, or annex expressed authorization for publishing by RCB.

In the case where a work is presented in co-authorship with one of more people, it is necessary that each one of the authors send a completed form, or the completed information.

<sup>19</sup> <http://www.apastyle.org/index.aspx>

<sup>20</sup> <http://www.apastyle.org/index.aspx>

<sup>21</sup> To register, go to the ORCID web page: <https://orcid.org/>

## PROCESS OF REVISION AND EVALUATION

Works received that fulfill the requirements for sending specified above will be submitted for approbation for evaluation by the Editorial Committee in a maximum of one month from its reception. If the submitted works do not fulfill these requirements, the authors will be notified by email in order for them to re-do the sending.

The Editorial Committee will select two (2) judges to complete the double blind evaluation of each article according to his or her profile and expertise. This means that the peer-reviewer will not know the identity of the authors, nor will the authors know the identity of the peer-evaluators. The selected judges should evaluate the academic, scientific, and formal quality of the submitted works. The evaluators will be internal or external to the Department of Bioethics of the Universidad el Bosque (national and international) and should declare that no conflict of interest exists for the realization of the labor.

Once the peer reviewers have been evaluated, they shall have maximum three (3) work days to inform about their availability to evaluate, and a time of maximum twenty (20) work days from then to issue their opinion. In case that a response is not received by a peer, it will be understood that the peer is not available for evaluation, and the Editorial Committee will select as quickly as possible another reader for the submitted work.

The opinions of the peer reviewers will be forwarded, signed, by email to the RCB in the appropriate form,<sup>22</sup> annexing the observations and commentaries that are pertinent for the

authors. Once the opinions of the selected evaluators for each article are received, the Editor will inform the authors by email of the decision and will send the opinions with the pertinent commentaries.

The works will be evaluated as:

- a. Publishable in an indexed journal
- b. Publishable in an indexed journal with small or substantial (specify) changes
- c. Not publishable

If both opinions deem that the work is publishable, the Editor will communicate the decision to the authors, annexing the evaluation without identifying information about the peers. In case of requiring small or substantial changes in content, the authors will have ten (10) workdays to make the solicited modifications to the manuscript. In case of not receiving an opportune response by the authors, it will be understood that they agree to the publication of the article be postponed.

If both opinions deem that the work is *not* publishable, the editor will communicate the decision to the authors, annexing the opinions of the evaluators. The authors can appeal the evaluator's decision, writing a letter directed to the Editor that sustains the reasons. The Editorial Committee will be able to determine, on a single occasion, a new pair of peers to evaluate the article. The authors can submit new versions of their rejected manuscripts, annexing a letter to the Editor of the RCB in which they show the substantial changes to the work. If the Editorial Committee considers that the manuscript constitutes a new text, it can decide to initiate a process of evaluation and subsequent publication.

<sup>22</sup> Available on the journal's web page.

In case that the one concept is positive and the other negative, the Editorial Committee will designate a third evaluator, that will have the aforementioned space of time to issue their opinion.

The authors should respond declaring their acceptance of changes in the style of the document for editorial adaption.

Once final manuscripts have been received, the texts will be submitted to style correction, bibliographical adaption and diagramming, in order to be printed and published in full text in the RCB's page. The authors will receive notification of publication and two (2) printed copies of the journal.